

We claim:

1. A catalyst or carrier which consists essentially of  
5 monoclinic zirconium dioxide prepared by precipitation of a  
zirconium salt with ammonia, wherein a zirconyl nitrate or  
zirconyl chloride solution ~~is~~ added to an aqueous ammonia  
solution at a decreasing pH from 14 to 6 and drying,  
calcination and pelletization are carried out.
- 10 2. A catalyst or carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein <sup>7</sup> ~~wherein~~ <sup>said</sup> ~~a~~  
zirconyl nitrate or zirconyl chloride solution is added to an  
aqueous ammonia solution at a decreasing pH from 14 to 7.
- 15 3. A catalyst or carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein <sup>7</sup> ~~wherein~~ <sup>said</sup> ~~a~~  
zirconyl nitrate or zirconyl chloride solution is added to an  
aqueous ammonia solution at a decreasing pH from 14 to 7.5.
- 20 4. A catalyst or carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  
precipitated product is filtered off, ammonium salts are  
removed, and drying is effected at a water vapor partial  
pressure of from 0.2 to 0.9 bar and calcination <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ carried  
out at from 300 to 600°C.
- 25 5. A catalyst or carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein <sup>7</sup> ~~wherein~~  
pelletizing assistants are added and compression <sup>molding</sup> ~~is~~ effected  
on an eccentric or rotary tablet press.
- 30 6. A catalyst or carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  
precipitated product or <sup>molding</sup> ~~moldings~~ thereof is ~~or are~~ doped by  
impregnation, coating or spraying with metals or metal salt  
solutions.

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